ISABELL TONKS THACKER MOULTON
wife of
JOHN EPHRAIM MOULTON

Isabell Tonks Thacker Moulton, daughter of William Thacker and Rachel Tonks Thacker was born July 12, 1858, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U. S. A. She was the seventh child of a family of thirteen children. Her parents were very religious, they had come from England for the gospel and were anxious to be with the Mormons in Utah. They began moving Westward. They left Florence, Nebraska July 1, 1861. They traveled with the Joseph Horne Company. Their teamster being John Cowley. While crossing the plains they averaged fifteen miles a day. They stopped every few days to wash clothes. Isabell's mother, Rachel, rode most of the way; she was a fleshy woman and had a nursing baby. Even though Isabell was a small child she walked most of the way.

One interesting experience while crossing the plains. Her father, William, found what he thought were mushrooms. He gathered and cooked them and the family ate them and all were very sick because they were poisoned. After being administered to, they vomited and were better and did not suffer any more bad effects.

They arrived in Salt Lake City, Utah, September 13, 1861. There they lived in a dug-out. The dug-out had formerly housed pigs; after thorough cleaning it became their home. Her father worked in President Young's blacksmith shop making nails for the Salt Lake Theatre. Isabell could remember putting pans on the bed to catch the rain when it stormed. They were willing to do anything above reproach or live anywhere for their testimony of the Gospel.

After living in Salt Lake City for three years they moved to Cache Valley. They lived in Logan one year, from here they moved to Clarkston. During the Black Hawk War they moved to Smithfield for protection. They stayed there for about two years. Later they moved to Peoa, on the Weber River, where her father worked as a blacksmith on the railroad. He was at Promontory Point, when the railroad was completed and was present at the celebration of the driving of the Golden Spike. Later they moved to Heber, about 1870, living in the North-East end of town. They took up a homestead in Buysville, which was later known as Daniels, just out of Heber. Their home was out by the creek that is now called Daniel's Creek.

Isabell was an ambitious young girl. She worked for people in their homes to help finance the family. She bought the first sewing machine the family had owned and many other things that would add to their comfort. She paid her own tuition and went to school; she later became one of the first school teachers in Daniels.

The family was very sociable and talented in music. They all loved to sing and often met at each others homes in the evening to dance.

Isabell had an interesting romance she used to tell her family about. When she was teaching school she met a handsome young man, he was neat and clean. She thought him a model young man. He was a lovely dancer and a great favorite with the girls. They became engaged and decided to go to Salt Lake and be married in the endowment house. They started to go over by Park, going down Parley's Canyon with a sleigh and team. They had to stay at a ranch over night so they took her mother as a chaperon. While at the ranch the young man got to drinking and after they started out the next morning he could not stay on the road nor find the way because he was so drunk. They pursuaded him to turn around and come back and postpone the marriage. He was a regular drunkard and she had been led to believe him different. She found him in his true light before she was tied to him and

it was too late. Needless to say she had no more to do with him. He would come to get her to go with him; when she refused to see him he would shoot off his gun and pour wine in his boots to make her think he had been hurt and hoping to gain her sympathy. She was happy to go to work at the William Moulton ranch North of Heber to get away from his influence.

While she was working here she met her future husband, John Ephraim Moulton. He was also working at the ranch for his brother William, hauling farm products by wagon, from the farm to Park City, Utah. Isabell was helping as hired girl for the family. Isabell was a very attractive girl. Her hair was light brown and naturally cutly, her eyes were blue. She had a very happy disposition. It was not surprising when John, the hired man, who was also tall, dark, and handsome, with kind and refined manners began courting her and soon won her heart. They were married March 23, 1883, in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City, Utah. They came back to the ranch and lived in a log house on the West side of the road. Here their first two children were born. Charlotte Elizabeth, January 5, 1883 and John Thomas, December 24, 1884.

At this time they came to Heber to live, working at farming and stock-raising. They made their home with John's father and mother (Thomas and Sarah Moulton). They lived in the old rock house on 2nd West and 2nd North. Here Frederick William was born June 22, 1887 and died eight days later. The following year Sarah Moulton passed away.

John and several other men in the community were working at Fred Giles' brick year making bricks to build their homes. This is the family home which is occupied at the present time by Dewey Moulton, one of Isabell's and John's children. It was necessary to put stoves in the house to help dry the plaster so the house would be ready for the family to move in to before the new baby arrived which was expected soon. When the child made his appearance, April 30, 1889 they named him Addison Charles.

They were happy in their new home. Father Moulton came to live with them because he was alone and John had received a call to go on a mission to the Northern States. He left May 20, 1890. Father Moulton (thomas) took care of the family while John was gone. He became ill and John was called home in 1892. Soon after father Thomas Moulton passes away.

Isabell was a wonderful mother, patient and kind, a very good cook. She was a good house-keeper and home maker. She had many talents. She did the family sewing, raised lovely house plants, enjoyed music and had a nice singing voice. She enjoyed singing as she did her work. She had a cheerful disposition. She was active in the organizations being a faithful Latter-Day-Saint.

March 23, 1907 they celebrated their Silver Wedding at their home in Heber. They served a hot dinner to a host of friends and relatives. Martha Witt was employed as a special cook. They spent days preparing for the event. This event was a memorable one in their lives.

The next few years were happy ones for this family. They were active in the church and in politics, had their nice home and were doing well with the farm and cattle. Lottie and Fred Giles were married during this period. Ethel was only two months old. Needless to say Isabell hated to lose her oldest daughter at this time.

One morning John got up early to see how Grandpa Thacker was (he was aged and was making his home with the Moulton's) and found that he had passed away during the night. This was a shock although Grandpa was 92 years of age.

Three weeks later, John E. Moulton, took pheumonia and died very suddenly, February 3, 1915.

The following years of her life were lonely and sad ones, she had poor health; varicose veins, and leg ulcers and several strokes. Then Deyce, who had married Hyrum Robbins, died with the influenza in February, 1920. She left two small children. This grieved Isabell very much because she was not able to take the children and raise them. However she was patient and endured her suffering uncomplainingly. After Ethel and Dewey were married Dewey brought his wife to live in the family home for awhile and take care of his mother. The fact that all of her children were married in the Temple brought Isabell much joy. Later she went to live with her daughter Lottie until she passed away March 2, 1925.

The funeral services were held in the Wasatch Stake House in Heber, Utah, on Thursday afternoon with Bishop Joseph A. Rasband conducting. The opening prayer was offered by Frederick Crook, benediction was pronounced by Orson Hicken. Speakers were Henry L. McMullin, Frede rick G. Carlile and John A Fortie. Musical numbers were furnished by a double mixed quartette consisting of J. E. McMullin, Earl Smith, Forest Dayton, Sylvester Broadbent, Nettie Murdock, Annie Rasband, Nittie Kuhni, and Mae Smith.

Children of John E. Moulton and Isabell Thacker Moulton:

Charlotte Elizabeth Moulton, born in Heber, R.F.D. Utah January 5, 1883. Married John Frederick Giles.

John Thomas Moulton, born in Heber R.F.D. Utah, December 24, 1884. Married Arabell Orgill.

Frederick William Moulton, born in Heber, Utah, June 22, 1887. Died June 30, 1887.

Addison Charles Moulton, born in Heber, Utah, April 30, 1889. Married Catherine Hegyessy who died April 16, 1956. He later married Lacy Watson Swain.

Deyce Bell, born in Heber, Utah, February 3, 1893. Married Jyrum Robbins. Deyce died February 11, 1920.

Albert Thacker Moulton, born in Heber, Utah, February 17, 1895. Married Iva Page.

Earnest Dewey Moulton, born in Heber, Utah, May 7, 1898. Married to Blanche Van Wagoner.

Ethel Fern Moulton, born in Heber, Utah, September 19, 1901. Married to Nymphus Watson.

Compiled November, 1957 by:
Florence M. Anderson-grandaughter
Ethel M. Watson-daughter.